

DO YOU LOVE THE SMELL OF A NEW BOOK? IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN YOUR EDUCATION LEVEL & YOUR PREFERENCE FOR THIS KIND OF NOVEL? WHAT STARS WOULD YOU CAST IN THE MOVIE OF THIS NOVEL? HOW LONG A LINE WOULD YOU STAND IN TO HAVE THIS BOOK SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR? DOES NOVELISTIC 'BACKSTORY' INCLUDE THE WOMEN WHO CLEANED THE HOTEL ROOMS WHEN THE AUTHOR WAS ON A BOOK TOUR? DOES A CHARACTER EVER FART IN THIS NOVEL? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE MEDIA GIANT THAT OWNS RANDOM HOUSE ONCE PUBLISHED BOOKS FOR THE NAZIS? WHAT ROLE DOES LITERARY FICTION PLAY IN THE WAY SOCIETY REPRODUCES ITSELF? WOULD YOU STILL BUY THIS NOVEL IF AN *AMERICAN IDOL*-TYPE COMPETITION HAD BEEN USED TO SELECT IT FOR PUBLICATION? WILL NOVELS EVENTUALLY BE WRITTEN BY SOFTWARE PROGRAMS? IS A NOVEL PROBABLY GOOD IF TERRY GROSS INTERVIEWED THE AUTHOR ON NPR? IS WRITING 50 YEARS BEHIND PAINTING? DO YOU FEEL MORE HUMAN AFTER READING A GREAT BOOK? IS IT IMPORTANT FOR A GOOD NOVEL TO HAVE A MOMENT OF EPIPHANY? DO YOU PREFER MORE 'SERIOUS' NOVELS THAN HARLEQUIN ROMANCES AND SPY THRILLERS? WHY DO MASS-MARKET PAPERBACKS HAVE SHINY COVERS WHILE LITERARY NOVELS HAVE A NON-GLOSSY MATTE FINISH? DOES THIS NOVEL RELY ON NARRATIVE TECHNIQUES DEVELOPED OVER A CENTURY AGO? WOULD IT CHANGE YOUR OPINION OF THIS NOVEL TO LEARN THAT IT WAS A HOAX? CAN THE WORDS ON THIS CARD BE A SHORT STORY? DOES THIS NOVEL MAKE MY ASS LOOK FAT?

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BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WOULD YOU STILL BUY THIS NOVEL IF YOU FOUND IT IN A DRUGSTORE? WOULD YOU STILL BUY THIS NOVEL IF IT HAD BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE STATE? ARE YOU A SYMPATHETIC MAIN CHARACTER? IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN YOUR SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS & THE KIND OF NOVELS YOU PREFER? IS THERE SUCH A THING AS MARKET CENSORSHIP? WILL YOU MENTION THIS NOVEL ON FACEBOOK OR TWITTER? WHAT IS THE TURNING POINT OF THIS NOVEL? WHICH THREE NOVELISTS FROM ANY TIME PERIOD WOULD YOU HAVE OVER FOR DINNER? IS ANYONE IN YOUR BOOK CLUB ON FOOD STAMPS? WOULD YOU STILL READ THIS NOVEL IF YOU KNEW THE AUTHOR HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF MANY PEOPLE? WILL YOU CONSIDER YOUR REFLECTION IN THE MIRROR OF THIS NOVEL? WHAT KIND OF DISTINCTION DOES A NOVEL OF THIS TYPE CONFER ON ITS READERS? ARE THE CHARACTERS IN THIS NOVEL EVER DEPICTED SHITTING OR MASTURBATING? WILL YOU REFRAIN FROM THESE THINGS DURING THE TIME YOU READ THIS NOVEL? IS IT JUST A COINCIDENCE THAT THE RISE OF THE NOVEL WAS CONCURRENT IN HISTORY WITH THE RISE OF THE BOURGEOISIE? WHAT QUESTIONS ARE LEGITIMATE TO ASK OF A NOVEL? DOES ONLY WHAT IS NARRATABLE BELONG IN A NOVEL? HOW IMPORTANT ARE PRIZES LIKE THE BOOKER OR PULITZER IN HELPING YOU CHOOSE WHAT TO READ? IS THERE SOMETHING MYSTERIOUS ABOUT GREAT ART THAT CAN'T BE EXPLAINED, OR DOES IT ALL COME DOWN TO NEUROSCIENCE? WHERE DID THE PAPER TO MAKE THIS NOVEL COME FROM? WHO MADE IT? IS THAT 'PART' OF THE NOVEL?

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IS IT IMPORTANT FOR CHARACTERS TO EVOLVE IN A NOVEL? IS A GOOD MAIN CHARACTER ONE WHO ACTS INSTEAD OF JUST BEING ACTED UPON? DO GOOD NOVELS REVEAL WHAT IS UNIVERSAL & TIMELESS ABOUT HUMAN NATURE? ARE YOU THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE NOVEL OF YOUR OWN LIFE? HOW MUCH OF THIS NOVEL WILL YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN BY NEXT WEEK? IS EVERY GOOD NOVEL UNIQUE, LIKE A SNOWFLAKE OR FINGERPRINT? WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT AT THE CONCLUSION OF A NOVEL, CHANGE OR ACCEPTANCE? OR IS EITHER OK AS LONG AS THERE IS REDEMPTION? DO YOU HOPE THIS NOVEL CHANGES YOUR LIFE? SHOULD A NOVEL HELP YOU TO LEARN SOMETHING? HOW LONG A LINE WOULD YOU STAND IN TO BUY THIS NOVEL? CAN A BOOK BE GREAT IF A MAJOR MOTIVE IN ITS COMPOSITION WAS SEXUAL AROUSAL? MUST THE MAIN CHARACTER HAVE A RICH INTERIOR LIFE FOR A NOVEL TO BE EFFECTIVE? HOW DOES THE IDEOLOGY OF 'PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERIORITY' SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE 1%? HOW IMPORTANT ARE REVIEWS IN HELPING YOU CHOOSE WHAT TO READ NEXT? WOULD YOU READ A NOVEL IN WHICH DESCRIPTIONS OF OBJECTS WERE MORE IMPORTANT THAN CHARACTERS? SHOULD A CHARACTER'S POSSESSIONS REFLECT HER OR HIS PERSONALITY? WHO MADE THE CLOTHES WORN BY THE CHARACTERS IN THIS NOVEL? WHO MADE THEIR FURNITURE & APPLIANCES? DID THE NOVEL SHOW AN INTEREST IN SUCH THINGS OR TAKE THEM FOR GRANTED? IF THE MIRROR OF THIS NOVEL BROKE, WHAT WOULD YOU SEE ON THE OTHER SIDE? WHAT DID THIS NOVEL TELL YOU COULD NOT BE CHANGED?

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BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

WILL YOU FORGET YOUR TROUBLES WHILE YOU READ THIS NOVEL? WILL YOU READ THIS NOVEL IN A STARBUCKS? WILL YOU READ THIS NOVEL ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION? DO YOU THINK THE PERSON WHO CLEANS TOILETS IN THE PUBLISHER'S OFFICE IS READING THIS NOVEL FOR THEIR BOOK CLUB? ARE YOU AWARE OF YOUR BODY AS YOU READ? WILL YOU CONSIDER YOUR REFLECTION IN THE MIRROR OF THIS NOVEL? WILL ANYONE BE INTERESTED IN READING THIS NOVEL BY THE TIME THE COPYRIGHT EXPIRES? IF A PRINTER'S ERROR LEFT THIS NOVEL BOUND WITH ALTERNATING CHAPTERS FROM A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT NOVEL, WOULD THAT MAKE IT LESS OR MORE INTERESTING TO YOU? WHAT NOVEL WOULD YOU GIVE TO ALIENS FROM ANOTHER PLANET TO CONVINCE THEM NOT TO ENSLAVE YOUR SPECIES? WHAT ONE NOVEL WOULD YOU MOST WANT WITH YOU ON A DESERT ISLAND? WOULD THE ISLAND'S INDIGENOUS INHABITANTS FIND THE SAME COMFORT OR INSPIRATION IN THAT NOVEL? WHY DO MASS-MARKET PAPERBACKS HAVE SHINY COVERS WHILE LITERARY NOVELS HAVE A NON-GLOSSY MATTE FINISH? DOES THE FACT THAT SO MANY AUTHORS HAVE MFA DEGREES MAKE THEIR NOVELS BETTER OR WORSE? WHAT SHADE OF LIPSTICK IS THIS NOVEL? MUST THE MAIN CHARACTER HAVE A RICH INTERIOR LIFE FOR A NOVEL TO BE INTERESTING? HOW DOES THE IDEOLOGY OF 'PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERIORITY' SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE 1%? WOULD IT CHANGE YOUR OPINION OF THIS NOVEL TO LEARN THAT IT WAS ENTIRELY CUT AND PASTED FROM OTHER NOVELS? IF THE MIRROR OF THIS NOVEL BROKE, WHAT WOULD YOU SEE ON THE OTHER SIDE?

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